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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,940	08/16/2001	David C. Knoll	56823US004	2558
32692	7590	04/06/2005	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY PO BOX 33427 ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			TO, BAOQUOC N	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2162

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/930,940	KNOLL ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Baoquoc N To	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 72 and 74-113 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-71 and 73 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 72 and 74-113 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/02/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .                                  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claim 73 is canceled and claims 72, 74, 84-87, 89, 91-95, 97 and 105-113 are amended in the amendment filed on 12/15/2004. Claims 72 and 74-113 are pending in this application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 72 and 74-113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frieden et al. (US. Patent No. 6,480,100 B1) in view of Fitzgerald et al. (US. Patent No. 6,260,049 B1).

Regarding on claims 72 and 105, Frieden teaches a method of transferring and using information, comprising:

(b) reformatting the information in a desired manner to facilitate the use of the information by an RFID tag conversion device (reformat/translate data between the storage format used on the RFID tag and any of a number of data formats that may be usable by an application program) (col. 8, lines 26-26);

(c) exporting the reformatted information to a database stored on a data storage device (importing or exporting large blocks of tag data to and from a tag interrogator, and provides a user-friendly interface for manipulating the data) (col. 8, lines 29-31); and

(d) writing the reformatted information related to a selected item of the plurality of items to an RFID tag using the RFID tag conversion device (a tag for use in the petroleum industry may include two header blocks. A first header block may be assigned to a component manufacturer, wherein component specification, identification and manufacturing data may be written) (col. 8, lines 57-61).

Frieden does not explicitly teach creating at least one file containing information from an existing database, wherein the information relates to a plurality of items. However, Fitzgerald teaches “optionally, the system can automatically create a master file without operator intervention via add auto step 240 and the add 242 step” (col. 15, lines 54-56). This teaches the master file related to other files in the system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Frieden’s system to include creating a master file in order to provide a one unique file to transfer to the RFID conversion to make it easy.

Regarding on claim 74, Frieden teaches the method further includes the step of (e) placing the RFID tag on or in the related item (col. 1, lines 50-55).

Regarding on claim 75, teaches the existing database includes information correlating the items to item identifiers (col. 1, lines 47-55).

Regarding on claim 76, Frieden teaches the item identifiers comprise barcodes (col. 5, lines 49-50).

Regarding on claim 77, Frieden teaches the item identifiers comprise at least one of characters and handwriting (col. 11, lines 35-46).

Regarding on claim 78, Frieden teaches the information exported to the data storage device comprises at least one list of items to be converted to RFID tagged items (col. 8, lines 25-30).

Regarding on claim 79, Frieden teaches the list is list of items in an order that the items are to be located in storage area (col. 7, lines 1-2).

Regarding on claim 80, Frieden teaches the data storage device is a removable non-volatile data storage device (col. 7, lines 1-3).

Regarding on claim 81, Frieden teaches the removable non-volatile data storage device is a solid-state device (hard drive) (col. 7, lines 1-3).

Regarding on claim 82, Frieden teaches the removable non-volatile solid-state data storage device is a compact flash memory card (col. 1, lines 14-15).

Regarding on claim 83, Frieden teaches the reformatted information exported to the data storage device comprises more than one file, each file including at least one database record (col. 8, lines 29-34).

Regarding on claim 84, Frieden teaches the information is reformatted by selecting from each record in the existing database information to be provided in a primary information field on the data storage device and selecting information to be provided in a secondary information field on the data storage device (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 85, Frieden teaches at least one of the primary and secondary information fields comprises information from a record related to a single type information (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 86, Frieden teaches at least one of the primary and secondary information fields comprises information from a record related to more than one type of information (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 87, Frieden teaches at least one of the primary and secondary information fields comprises information from a record in the existing database that represent only a portion of the information contained in that record (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 88, Frieden teaches the information selected for the primary and secondary information fields is selected from the group consisting of the name or title of the item, the identification number of the item, or the call number of the item (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 89, Frieden teaches the method further comprises displaying information obtained from the primary information field and information obtained from the secondary information field on the RFID tag conversion device for observation by a user (col. 8, lines 25-35).

Regarding on claim 90, Frieden teaches reformatting the data comprises identifying multiple records in the existing database that relate to equivalent items (col. 16, lines 38-41).

Regarding on claim 91, Frieden teaches the method further comprises providing only one entry on the database stored on the data storage device relative to that item (col. 7, lines 40-43).

Regarding on claim 92, Frieden teaches the method further comprises comparing multiple entries from the existing database to determine whether the multiple entries relate to equivalent (col. 8, lines 1-2).

Regarding on claim 93, Frieden teaches reformatting the data comprises identifying multiple records in the existing database that relate to equivalent items (col. 8, lines 25-27).

Regarding on claim 94, Frieden teaches the method further comprises assigning the same storage area location equivalent item (col. 8, lines 40-46).

Regarding on claim 95, Frieden teaches the method further comprises the step of previewing the format of at least one entry for the database on the data storage device prior to step (c) (col. 7, lines 41-42).

Regarding on claim 96, Frieden teaches the entry includes information selected from the group consisting of an item identifier, a primary information field, a secondary information field, and a barcode (col. 10, lines 43-61).

Regarding on claim 97, Frieden teaches the method further comprises providing a summary log related to the exportation of information (col. 8, lines 29-31).

Regarding on claim 98, teaches the summary log comprises information selected from a group consisting of a description of the files that were exported, the number of entries that were exported, the elapsed time for the transfer, and the number of errors encountered during the export (col. 8, lines 29-31).

Regarding on claim 99, Frieden teaches the method further comprises providing a detail error log that provides information related errors detected in the exported information (col. 8, lines 29-31).

Regarding on claim 100, Frieden teaches the items are library materials (col. 8, lines 29-31).

Regarding on claim 101, Frieden teaches the items are files (col. 7, lines 40-42).

Regarding on claim 102, Frieden teaches the items are pieces of evidence (col. 7, lines 40-42).

Regarding on claim 103, Frieden teaches the items are pallets or container (col. 7, lines 40-42).

Regarding on claim 106, Frieden teaches the RFID tag conversion device is a handheld RFID tag conversion device (col. 8, lines 1-6).

Regarding on claim 107, Frieden teaches the RFID tag conversion device is a component of a workstation of processing items selected by users (col. 7, lines 40-42).

Regarding on claim 108, Frieden teaches the workstation is a workstation adapted for use by a library employee (col. 6, lines 53-67 to col. 7, lines 1-8).

Regarding on claim 109, Frieden teaches the workstation is a self-service station adapted for use by the user who selected the items (col. 7, lines 40-43).

Regarding on claim 110, Frieden teaches the workstation is a conversion station for converting non-RFID-tagged items to RFID-tagged items (col. 8, lines 25-35).

Regarding on claim 111, Frieden teaches the non-RFID-tagged items are barcoded items (col. 11, lines 34-45).

Regarding on claim 112, Frieden teaches the non-RFID-tagged items are identified by characters (col. 11, lines 34-45).

Regarding on claim 113, Frieden teaches the non-RFID-tagged items are items regarding which a user enters information describing the items into the workstation (col. 7, lines 40-43).

### ***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is at 571-272-4041 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached at 571-272-4107.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

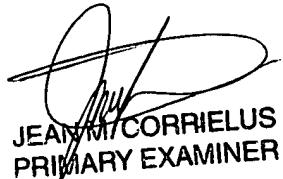
Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follow:

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

Baoquoc N. To  
March 29, 2005



JEAN M. CORRIELUS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER